

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 00526 051906Z

66

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 /048 W

----- 032130

R 051850Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7481

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 0526

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TD, US, VE

SUBJ: ALLEGED PREPARATIONS FOR US INTERVENTION IN
TRINIDAD AND VENEZUELA

REF: POS 483; POS 498

1. IN A MARCH 4 EDITORIAL, THE TRINIDAD "EXPRESS"
TERMED CHARGES THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS PREPARING
TO INTERVENE ON BEHALF OF TEXACO IN THE CURRENT DISPUTE
AND THAT IT PLANNED TO USE TRINIDAD AS BASE FOR SUBVERSIVE
ACTIVITIES AGAINST VENEZUELA AS A "RED HERRING" WHICH
HAD NOT BEEN SUPPORTED BY EVIDENCE. THE CHARGES WERE
MADE BY GEORGE WEEKES, PRESIDENT-GENERAL OF THE OILFIELD
WORKERS TRADE UNION, IN AN EXCLUSIVE FRONT-PAGE INTERVIEW
IN THE MARCH 2 EDITION OF THE "EXPRESS." (REFTELS.)

2. THE PERTINENT PARAGRAPHS OF THE "EXPRESS" EDITORIAL
FOLLOW:
QUOTE MR. WEEKES, IN AN EXCLUSIVE EXPRESS INTERVIEW MADE
CERTAIN STATEMENTS REGARDING THE UNITED STATES' DESIRE
TO USE TRINIDAD AS A BASE FOR "SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES"
AGAINST VENEZUELA. THIS APPEARS TO BE A RED HERRING
WHICH HAS NO RELEVANCE WHATSOEVER IN THE PRESENT IMPASSE BE-
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TWEEN THE UNION AND TEXACO. MR. WEEKES SHOULD BE ABLE

TO BACK UP SUCH STATEMENTS WITH EVIDENCE.
HE WOULD BE BETTER ADVISED TO STOP HIS RHETORIC AND GET
DOWN WITH THE BUSINESS BEFORE HIM, I.E., SETTLING THE
DISPUTE WITH TEXACO BEARING IN MIND THE ECONOMY OF TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO AND THE NEED TO BALANCE OILWORKERS' RIGHTS WITH
THE WIDER INTERESTS OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO.UNQUOTE.
MILLER

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NNN

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